Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2001 TO JANUARY 12, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month	Month'00/ Month'99	Comments
New Housing Price Index	November			
Canada	104.3	0.4%	2.5%	New housing prices in Canada rose 2.5 on a year-over-year basis, and 0.4% from the previous month. Calgary (1.9%) and Edmonton (1.0%) had the fourteenth and sixteenth largest year-over-year increases respectively among the 21 major Canadian cities. The highest increases were in Ottawa-Hull (11.8%), Kitchener-Waterloo (4.3%) and Montreal (4.3%). Declines were experienced in Victoria (-1.8%), Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton (-1.6%) and Sudbury-Thunder Bay (-1.4%).
Edmonton	112.2	-0.1%	1.0%	
Calgary	133.1	0.1%	1.9%	
(1992=100)				
Building Permits	November			
($ millions)				Total building permits decreased by 8.3% in Alberta in November. Residential and non-residential permits decreased by 5.5% and 11.3% respectively. Nationally, during the first eleven months, building permits were up 7.1% over the same period in 1999, while Alberta building permits increased 13.4% (5.7% for residential and 23.8% for non-residential).
Alberta	460.6	-8.3%	25.6%	
Canada	3,178.7	0.5%	0.1%	
Housing Starts	December			
(Centers 10,000+)				Urban housing starts decreased 3.8% in Alberta in December, and increased 5.6% from December 1999. Canadian housing starts declined 4.9% from the previous month and 7.1% from the previous year. Alberta's urban housing starts increased by 7.3% in 2000.
Alberta	22,600	-3.8%	5.6%	
Canada	148,000	-4.9%	-7.1%	
Alberta Drilling Activity	December			
(monthly average)	395	17.9%	11%	The total number of active rigs drilling in Alberta increased 17.9% in December to 395, up from 335 in November. The number of rigs drilling in Alberta was 11% higher than December 1999. The total number of active rigs drilling in Alberta increased 41.1% in 2000.